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Attorney Docket No.: 018422-000210US

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TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By Chritte Starent

NOV 162000

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Boles et al.

Application No.: 09/336,609

Filed: June 18, 1999

For: DETECTION OF NON-VIRAL ORGANISMS WITH SRP RNA

Examiner:

J. Einsmann

Art Unit:

1655

PETITION TO EXTEND TIME

Art Unit 1655 Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Applicant petitions the Assistant Commissioner of Patents to extend the time for response to the Office Action dated May 8, 2000 for three (3) months, from August 8, 2000 to November 8, 2000. An appropriate response in the form of an Amendment is enclosed herewith.

Please charge the fee of \$445.00 to the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 20-1430. Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to the above deposit account. This petition is submitted in triplicate.

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445.00 CH

Respectfully submitted,

Annette S. Parent Reg. No. 42,058

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